

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET NW SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX
www.cfa.gov

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

19 June 2003

AM 10:00 **CONVENE**, Suite 312, 401 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Administration of oath of office to Diana Balmori, Elyn Zimmerman, and Earl A. Powell, III.
- B. Approval of minutes: 15 May 2003
- C. Dates of next meetings: 17 July 2003
 18 September 2003
 16 October 2003
- D. Proposed year 2004 meeting schedules for the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission.
- E. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on last month's [site inspection](#) of the second set of six bas-relief panels for the World War II Memorial.
- F. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on the designs for the 2003 and 2004 nickels commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase.
- G. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on the design of the [official seal](#) for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- H. Introduction of Sarah Garber, summer intern from the American studies program at the University of California, Berkeley.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Federal Highway Administration / National Capital Planning Commission

[CFA 19/JUN/03- 1](#), Pennsylvania Avenue, between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, and Jackson and Madison Places. Landscape improvements, road resurfacing and security components. Concept. (Previous: CFA 20/MAR/03- 1, Information presentation).

B. Department of Defense / Arlington National Cemetery

[CFA 19/JUN/03- 2](#), Memorial to the Crew of the Columbia Orbiter. Arlington National Cemetery. Designs.

C. Department of Defense

1. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 3](#), The Pentagon. Arlington, Virginia. The Pentagon Memorial for the Victims of September 11, 2001. Concept. (Previous: CFA 16/JAN/03-1, Information presentation).
2. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 4](#), The Pentagon. Arlington, Virginia, Intersection of Route 27 and Columbia Pike. New secure access lane to the Remote Delivery Facility. Final. (Previous: CFA 21/NOV/02-7).
3. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 5](#), The Pentagon. Arlington, Virginia. Pentagon Secure Bypass; Realignment of Route 110. Final. (Previous: CFA 21/NOV/02-6).
4. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 6](#), The Pentagon. Arlington, Virginia. Pentagon Central Courtyard. Replacement building for the Center Court Café. Concept.
5. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 7](#), Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Main Section, Power Transfer Station. Addition. Design.

D. Department of the Treasury / U.S. Mint

[CFA 19/JUN/03- 8](#), Fifty States circulating / commemorative quarter program for 2004. Design for the Michigan state quarter. (Previous: CFA 15/MAY/03-2). (POSTPONED)

E. General Services Administration

1. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 9](#), James Forrestal Building, Department of Energy. 1000 Independence Avenue, SW. Perimeter security barriers. Concept. (NOT PRESENTED)
2. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 10](#), Frances C. Perkins Building, Department of Labor. 200 Constitution Avenue, NW. Temporary perimeter security planters. Design. (NOT PRESENTED)
3. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 11](#), Judiciary Square Historic District. Bounded by 4th, G, and 5th streets and Indiana Avenue. Final Master Plan. (Previous CFA 15/MAY/03- 3: Information presentation).

F. District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department

1. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 12](#), Metropolitan Police Department Institute of Police Science (Training Academy). 4665 Blue Plains Drive, SW. Classroom addition and renovations. Design.
2. [CFA 19/JUN/03- 13](#), Metropolitan Police Department Multi-function Facility. 2175 West Virginia Avenue, NE. New building. Concept.

G. District of Columbia Office of Property Management

[CFA 19/JUN/03- 14](#), New Packer Storage Facility (garage for municipal trash collection trucks). 1500 West Virginia Avenue, NE. Design.

H. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Old Georgetown Act
 - a. [O.G. 03-133](#), 901 30th Street, NW, New mixed-use building. Revised concept. (Last seen: CFA 22 April 2003).

b. Appendix I.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 03- 106, American Pharmacists Association. 2215 Constitution Avenue, NW. Rear addition. Revised/New concept. (Previous: CFA 18 APR 02-5).

b. S.L. 03- 107, Republic Square. 25 Massachusetts Avenue and 660 North Capitol Street, NW. Two new nine-story office buildings. Concept.

c. Appendix II.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear General Kelley:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission received a report from its staff on the site visit by former Chairman Harry G. Robinson III, to Ray Kaskey's studio after its meeting on 15 May, to inspect the second set of six bas-relief panels for the National World War II Memorial. While none of the current members were present at Mr. Kaskey's studio at that time, the staff circulated photographs that were taken of the panels displayed. After reviewing the images, the members were very pleased with Mr. Kaskey's efforts and confirmed the Commission's approval of these panels.

The Commission looks forward to the review of the next set of bas-relief panels. The staff is available to coordinate a site visit as soon as they are ready.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

General Paul X. Kelley, USMC (Ret.)
Chairman, American Battle Monuments Commission
Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 501
2300 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201

cc: Ray Kaskey
General John Herrling, ABMC
William B. Owenby, ABMC
Terry Carlstrom, National Park Service
John Parsons, National Park Service

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Ms. Neely:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission received a report from its staff on the proposed design for the new seal for the Department of Homeland Security. The design had been circulated to the members for comment before the meeting so that the accelerated development schedule could be met before the seal's public unveiling. The members found the design to be a contemporarily-rendered, traditional design based on the Great Seal of the United States and appropriate for the Department.

The Commission formally confirmed its approval of the design.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Susan K. Neely
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20528

cc: Wallace Krantz, Jr., Landor Assoc.
Christine Neal, The Advertising Council Inc.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Teikari:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the Federal Highway Administration's submission for the modification and redesign of Pennsylvania Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, in front of the White House, and the additional changes proposed for Madison and Jackson Places, NW, to the east and west of Lafayette Square. In March 2003, the Commission saw and approved a preliminary concept for this project that was submitted by the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC). At that time Mr. Van Valkenburgh acknowledged there were still many details to be worked out, and the members commented on the importance of the design of the bollards, along with a suggestion to incorporate into the design of the paving a special feature to recognize the 16th Street axis where it crosses the Avenue into the White House grounds.

Following an invitation made during NCPC's presentation in March and prior to the Commission's May meeting, the members visited the Avenue to inspect samples of paving materials for the roadbed and sidewalk. At that time, a mockup of the proposed bollard was displayed, as well as several variations of the design for the guard booths, which the members viewed favorably.

For this submission the members were pleased to see how the design has developed and that the overall project has kept the security items in the avenue to a minimum, preserving the openness of the street. After a lengthy discussion on the choice of paving materials, the Commission decided that the final selections and approvals should be completed on site with another, more accurate and perhaps more extensive, mockup. The desire to regrade the avenue, reducing the crown and pitch of the roadbed, should be carefully studied to prevent any chance of standing water. As for the guard booth design, there was a suggestion made to study the effect of replacing the small metal panels under the windows with opaque glass to give the appearance of a larger glazed area.

In addition, the members were concerned with the alignment of the eastern row of bollards and how it terminated at the entrance to Riggs Bank. If an adjustment can be made to the line of bollards to avoid the conflict with the bank's entrance, it would be encouraged. Otherwise, the project concept as a whole was well received and was approved unanimously. We look forward to the next submission of the final plans, details, and material selections.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Alan T. Teikari
Federal Highway Administration
U. S. Department of Transportation
Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division
21400 Ridgetop Circle
Sterling, VA 20166-6511

cc: Michael Van Valkenburgh, MVV Association, Inc.
Jack Van Dopp, FHWA
Dan Tangerlini, DC DOT
John V. Cogbill, III, Chairman, NCPC
William Dowd, NCPC
Robert Baer, USSS

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Metzler:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the proposal for a memorial to the crew of the Columbia Orbiter. The Commission appreciated the simplicity of the design as a representation of the original patch worn by the crew. If there is a request for portraiture as the design develops, a more classical approach is recommended, depicting crew members in profile, typical of many coins and medals. In addition, a more evocative inscription might be better suited to remembrance of the crew.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this memorial. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Childs", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

John Metzler, Jr.
Superintendent
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 512
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the concept design for the Pentagon Memorial for the Victims of September 11, 2001. The Commission is pleased to advise the Department of Defense on the design of the memorial and has closely followed its development from the initial inception through the competition selection process. While the design concept has been extensively scrutinized by the competition juries and vetted by the families of the victims, the members of the Commission have several major concerns about the durability of some of the elements, possible maintenance problems, and accessibility. The basic concept and organization of the design, utilizing the age of the victims and their location at the time of the tragedy, intrigued the members, but when reviewing the details of the memorial's construction, questions arose regarding the 184 "Memorial Units" as proposed.

The small pools of water under each bench-like unit were deemed problematical on several points, including: the need for a complicated mechanical system to circulate, filter and heat the water; an underwater lighting system (both difficult and expensive systems to keep running); and the necessity to clean daily 184 small individual pools of leaves, trash and gravel that will undoubtedly accumulate in them. The members suggested that the design team study alternative methods and materials to achieve the lighting effects they desire without individual pools.

Another detail that will be problematical in the long run is the coating of a "polyester composite matrix-gravel mix" on the memorial units. Essentially what amounts to gluing stones on the sloped portion of the milled aluminum bench unit not only has technical problems and durability issues, but it seems contrary to the nature of the materials and adds little to the symbolic intent of the memorial units. A difficult and potentially unsightly detail will have to be developed for the joint where the units slope down to merge with the field of gravel in which they sit. Perhaps it would be best to eliminate the composite coating and just let the units be all metal. A full scale mockup and testing of one of the memorial units will be essential to a successful development of the design.

The members were concerned with the choice of the Paperbark Maple as the primary tree species for the memorial grove. This is a small tree that would provide limited shade to offer the visitor any significant relief from the heat of Washington's hot summer sun. The leaves are small and may be difficult to clean from the gravel surface of the memorial, not to mention the multiplicity of pools. We recommend this choice be reevaluated and considered in the context of the landscaping for the proposed new secure access lane that will be constructed adjacent to the west side of the memorial.

Another area of concern is the entrance gateway/introductory space. The preliminary design that was shown for the entrance area may have too many elements, which, collectively, seem overly complicated and detract from the main body of the memorial park.

Granted, a designed entrance to the memorial is a necessity, but simplicity will be the key to its success. The old adage "Less is More" should be the governing principle for the design of the memorial's entrance.

This leads to the issue of public access to the site, which in turn raises the question of public parking. The members understand the complexity of access and the security issues of having public parking near the memorial, but request that in the next submission provisions for parking and directing the public—from both the parking and the Metro Station—to the memorial be included.

In the context of the above comments, it cannot be over emphasized that the issues of long-term durability and ease of maintenance are paramount to the success of any commemorative work. This memorial should be constructed to last as long as the Pentagon itself. Anything less would be considered unworthy of the subject and not acceptable. With these comments and recommendations taken into consideration, the members voted to accept the concept for approval. The Commission and our staff will work with your department and the design team to develop a quality, fitting design for this important memorial, in as timely a fashion as possible. The members look forward to the next submission as the design develops.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
Office of the Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

cc: Walker Lee Evey, Program Manager, Pentagon Renovation Office
Michael Yopp, Project Coordinator, Pentagon Renovation Office
Stacie Candrell, Architectural Program, Pentagon Renovation Office
Keith Kaseman
Julie Beckman

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Evey:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the designs for the Pentagon secure access lane to the Remote Delivery Facility. While it is regrettable that the current times mandate such measures to protect the Pentagon and its occupants, the Commission completely understands the necessity for improved perimeter security at our government's facilities. The members also recognize the unfortunate adjacency of the lane to the proposed memorial to the victims of September 11th and the constrained space at the northwest side of the Pentagon. However, this does not alter our desire to improve the city's appearance, already compromised by many unsightly and poorly thought-out installations.

In this regard, the members are concerned with the configuration of the blast wall along the northern portion of the access lane. First, every effort should be made to match exactly the finish and texture of the new Remote Delivery Facility—this wall should not look like a typical highway sound barrier. Secondly, as we stated in our previous letter of 6 December 2002, the design of the wall should be given additional study to find ways to reduce its apparent visual height. Any strategy that could relieve the wall's verticality, including small ledges or shelves or horizontal setbacks for plants, should be incorporated into the western face of the wall. This would allow additional plants to grow in the wall, softening its face and alleviating the massive flat plane of the wall that appears overly bulky.

In addition, the members suggested that the tree choice for lining the access lane and the pedestrian/bike path should be a single, columnar-shaped species. This would better fit the narrow space between the highway, pathway, access lane and blast wall. The landscaping along the access lane should be carefully coordinated with that of the proposed memorial to the victims of September 11th.

The submission was approved, with the understanding that modifications will be made in response to the above recommendations. Please forward the final details and landscape plan when ready. As always, the staff is available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Childs", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Mr. Walker Lee Evey
Program Manager
Pentagon Renovation Office
100 Boundary Channel Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3712

cc: Michael Yopp, Project Coordinator, Pentagon Renovation Office
Stacie Candrell, Architectural Program, Pentagon Renovation Office

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Evey:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the final plans for the realignment of Route 110 to create a more secure bypass through the Pentagon reservation. While it is regrettable that the current times mandate such measures to protect the Pentagon and its occupants, the Commission completely understands the need for security and is supportive of these efforts. During the presentation, several suggestions were offered for consideration as the project is finalized. The members noted the extensive use of natural concrete for the new bridges, and for the walls of the pedestrian walkways and ramps, and suggested that the final finish be carefully studied so that it will match the existing walls and stairs of the River Terrace. Whether this is accomplished through the use of an appropriate tone of concrete or with an aggregate in the concrete mix should be fully considered. In addition, the concrete used in the pedestrian walkways should also be carefully selected, and the standard gray-white color concrete should not be utilized. The walkways should complement the terrace walls and, as part of this project, we hope the terrace of the Lagoon Landing can be restored to its original appearance.

Also, the members recommended planting vines, such as Virginia Creeper, along the base of the walls and then allowing the foliage to climb, softening the appearance of the walls. With these suggestions, the members approved the submission, provided a sample panel of materials is erected on site for approval. Please coordinate with the staff to arrange a site inspection of the sample panel when ready.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Mr. Walker Lee Evey
Program Manager
Pentagon Renovation Office
100 Boundary Channel Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3712

cc: Michael Yopp, Project Coordinator, Pentagon Renovation Office
Stacie Candrell, Architectural Program, Pentagon Renovation Office
Tim Wells, Project Coordinator, Pentagon Renovation Office

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Evey:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the design for a replacement building for the Center Court Café at the Pentagon. Although enlarging the footprint is appropriate, the design of the pavilion should be simplified by reducing the number of disparate elements and materials. The structure should be more gardenesque to minimize its effect on the mature and well-tended landscape of the center courtyard.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project prior to granting concept approval. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Mr. Walker Lee Every
Program Manager
Pentagon Renovation Office
100 Boundary Channel Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3712

cc: Michael Yopp, Project Coordinator, Pentagon Renovation Office
Stacie Candrell, Architectural Program, Pentagon Renovation Office

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Parker:

During its meeting of 19 June 2003, the Commission reviewed the proposed addition to the heating plant, Building 15, at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The addition will house a new Electrical Switchgear Station for the campus replacing the existing temporary facility which was put in service after a fire in August 2001 demolished the previous station.

The quality of the design respects the character of the existing structure, by using the same Flemish bond and brick color, and was well received. As such, the project was approved.

We look forward to the submission of construction documents to the staff.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Donald Parker
Cultural Resources Manager
WRAMC/DPW Master Planning Branch
6900 Georgia Avenue
Building I, Room C002
Washington, DC 20307

cc: Marjorie Marcus, Senior Master Planner, WRAMC
Robert F. Gore, US Army Corps of Engineers
Peter Feibelman, HSMM
Stephanie Sechrist, NCPC

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 512
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission was disappointed not to have the opportunity to review the submission for the permanent perimeter security barriers at the James Forrestal Building housing the Department of Energy at 1000 Independence Avenue, SW. As a federal building, all exterior work is subject to review by the Commission.

The Commission looks forward to the review of this project at our next meeting on 17 July 2003. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
U.S. General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: META Engineers
Rodney L. Moulden, GSA
Samak Gorgeen, GSA

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission was disappointed not to have the opportunity to review the submission for the temporary perimeter security barriers at the Frances C. Perkins Building, headquarters of the Department of Labor at 200 Constitution Avenue, NW. As a federal building, all exterior work is subject to review by the Commission.

The Commission looks forward to the review of this project at our next meeting on 17 July 2003. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
U.S. General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: Chris Peoples, Karn Charuhas Chapman & Twohey
Rodney L. Moulden, GSA
Godfrey Smith, GSA

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 15 May, the Commission was pleased to receive a presentation of the proposed master plan for the Judiciary Square Historic District, bounded by 4th, 5th, and G Streets and Indiana Avenue. The Commission strongly encouraged further collaboration among all the organizations involved with the square to resolve ongoing questions and requested staff involvement in the process.

Although the specifics of the design for Judiciary Square will evolve as each project is presented, such as the configuration of security elements, there are concerns about some of the approaches suggested. The alignment of the new pavilions of the Law Enforcement Museum should provide for an ample linear north-south access to the Courthouse through the central plaza from E Street. The Commission would encourage a simplification of the pathways in the square, reducing the diversions, to create a more appropriate formality and greater portions of open space. While the security perimeter requires further resolution in general, the allée of trees suggested may not be successful due to practical matters of underground utilities.

We look forward to the review of the project as the remaining issues are resolved. As always, the staff is available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
U.S. General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: Michael A. Kazan, Gruzen Samton, LLP
Cathy Daskalakis, Gruzen Samton, LLP
Devpal S. Duggal, Metropolitan Architects and Planners, Inc.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Chief Ramsey:

During its meeting of 19 June 2003, the Commission reviewed two projects for the Metropolitan Police Department. Both projects were designed by the firm of Sorg Architects and were approved as presented.

The first project was the classroom addition and renovation at the Metropolitan Police Department Institute of Police Science located at 4665 Blue Plains Drive, SW. The Commission felt the character of the new building was appropriate to the rest of the campus.

The second project was the new Multifunction Facility to be located at 2175 West Virginia Avenue, NE. The bold use of color, textures and materials was enthusiastically received. The variations of depth between the metal panels is essential to the success of the design. It should be no less than the proposed 8-inch set-back, but increasing the depth even further may improve the effect. A site visit to view the material samples may be in order.

The Metropolitan Police Department and its architect should be commended for a well-conceived approach to their new construction projects.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Charles H. Ramsey
Chief of Police
Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters
300 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

cc. Suman Sorg, Sorg Architects
John C. Stokes, P.E., CB Richard Ellis, Inc.
Kenneth Garrett, Project Manager, CB Richard Ellis, Inc.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Cyrus:

During its meeting of 19 June, the Commission reviewed the design of the new Packer Storage Facility at 1500 West Virginia Avenue, NE. While the overall design for the structure was well received, there was a recommendation that the roof and side louvers covering the vehicular ramp to the rooftop parking be eliminated from the project. The members felt that an open ramp would add additional animation to this side of the building, and that any safety concerns related to cold weather freezing could be more efficiently, and more cost effectively, managed with a heating system embedded in the deck of the ramp's roadway. This was requested as the members hoped that the elevations and the expression of structure could be kept as simple as possible, which would be appropriate for a facility of this type and size.

With these modifications the submission was approved. The Commission appreciates the city's efforts to improve this facility's appearance. It should prove to be an enhancement to this area of the city. Please submit the final plans for review when ready.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Ralph W. Cyrus Jr.
COTR, Project Manager
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Property Management
Capital Construction Services Administration
2000 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

cc: Austin L. Spriggs

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

30 June 2003

Dear Mr. Novak:

During its meeting of 19 June 2003, the Commission reviewed and approved the revised concept design for the proposed North Building, part of the development project called Harbourside to be located at 901 30th Street, NW, in Georgetown. The Commission believes the design has been greatly improved from what was reviewed in April. Moving the entrance to 30th Street helps enliven the pedestrian experience on this portion of the street. The louvered sun shades, an integral feature of the cantilevered upper third and fourth floors, reinforce the design's horizontality and its relationship with the House of Sweden to its south.

After considering the options presented by the architect, Mr. Arthur Cotton Moore, the combination of the entrance option 1, which includes the central stairs and the two handicapped access ramps centered along 30th Street, and the detailing of the columns as shown in column option A was approved in concept for further development.

We look forward to the review of the design development of the overall project, including the North Building, the House of Sweden building and the landscape plan for the various parks, prior to the submission of working drawings and permit application.

Sincerely,



David M. Childs, FAIA
Chairman

Alan Novak
Lano International
3050 K Street, NW suite 201
Washington, DC , 20007

cc: Arthur Cotton Moore
Peter Ohstedt, Swedish National Property Board
Gert Wingårdh, Wingårdh Architects
John Parsons, NPS